

In this connection an original copy of the parent application specification as filed 08/20/99, is enclosed herewith.

The enclosed continuation-in-part application specification sets forth only that portion of the earlier disclosure which is germane to the present invention, which is restricted to a third claim group, drawn to an apparatus for forming, classified in class 425, subclass 402

Your applicant submits a new specification and drawings for purposes of clarity. Further, your applicant believes the number and nature of amendments necessary to carve out the germane matter would be so extensive that the application papers as originally filed would be so difficult to consider or arrange for printing and copying, and therefore, on these further grounds, the examiner is hereby requested to approve the substitute specification and drawings.

A marked-up copy of the substitute specification showing the matter being added to and the matter being deleted from the specification of record is attached herein. A substitute specification in clean form is also submitted and the examiner's approval therefor is requested.

The substitute specification and drawings contained herein sets forth what your applicant believes to be the best mode of the invention, and that best mode, although embraced in the original claims, was not clear and concise in the original disclosure. Therefore the examiner may find that the addition of new matter is present in the body of the disclosure. The claims rely upon the matter disclosed in the original specification. Your applicant has therefore enclosed a newly executed (supplemental) declaration herewith.

Notwithstanding the removal of matter not germane to the present invention of this new application, your applicant requests that the prior parent application designated 09/377,792 be hereby incorporated herein by such reference, and that matter carved out of the original specification would not be canceled with prejudice.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

For the sake of clarity, please amend the title of the invention from TRIPLE SHEET THERMOFORMING APPARATUS, METHODS AND ARTICLES to TRIPLE SHEET THERMOFORMING APPARATUS.

Below the title of the invention please add the paragraph heading CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS and new paragraph [0001.1]

Under the section entitled TECHNICAL FIELD, please delete paragraph [0001] and replace with new paragraph [0002.1].

Under the section entitled DESCRIPTION OF THE PRIOR ART, please delete paragraphs [0002] through [0010] and replace with new paragraphs [0003.1] through [0012.1].

Under the section entitled SUMMARY OF THE INVENTIONS, please amend the section heading to SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION, delete the sub-section headings, cancel the paragraphs [0011] through [0036] and replace with new paragraphs [0013.1] through [0024.1].

Under the section entitled DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS, please delete paragraphs [0037] through [0060] and replace with new paragraphs [0025.1] through [0048.1].

Under the section entitled DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT, please delete paragraphs [0061] through [0117] and replace with new paragraphs [0049.1] through [0094.1].

Please delete the Abstract Section of the specification and replace it with the following Abstract in clean form. Applicant includes herewith an Attachment for Specification Amendments showing a marked up version of the previous version of the Abstract Section.

ABSTRACT

A thermoforming machine for manufacturing triple sheet thermoplastic articles is disclosed. The thermoforming machine comprises three controllable ovens for heating three sheets to a heat deformable temperature, three shape giving molds for separately thermoforming each sheet in succession, and forging-like means to compress the three thermoformed sheets into a unitary article. The three sheets are thermoformed and compressed together in a form station comprising upper and lower platens. Acting with the upper platen is a mold shuttle system for moving two of three molds into position relative to the thermoforming and forging-like operations of the apparatus.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 2, 3, 4 and 5, without prejudice, and amend Claims 1 and 6 as follow:

1. (Amended) Apparatus for differential pressure forming a single article from three heat deformable thermoplastic sheets comprising:

four work stations designated one, two, three and four positioned in spaced relation in a circular arrangement,